

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN INSTRUCTIONS



This multi-year, early literacy program encourages Winona Area residents to read to and interact with their children before they reach kindergarten. The single most important activity you can do to help your child become a successful reader is to read aloud to him or her every day. You hold a very special place in their heart right from the start, and by sharing a love of reading with them from an early age, you encourage them to continue that love of learning and reading into their school years. Early literacy is a stepping stone towards future learning habits. This also creates a special way for parents and children to bond during the formative years. Each log contains not only shapes to fill in for books read, but also space to record some of your favorite titles. Participants receive special prizes at milestones along the way.

How to Participate:

- Read with your child. Studies show that reading with your child provides a great opportunity for bonding. Reading together is fun and will create lifelong memories for the both of you!
- Keep track of how many books you've read by filling in the shapes on your log. Books read at storytime count, too!
- When your log is completed, bring it back to the youth services desk at the Winona Public Library and receive your next log! Your child will receive a number of prizes along the way, and when they reach 1,000 books, they will get a bookplate with their name in a new book that they get to choose for the library's collection! Every May, those children who have finished 1,000 books that current year will have their name and picture in the paper! (Note: You can opt out of the newspaper recognition if you'd prefer.)

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Who can participate?

A: Winona Area residents with a child who ranges from age 1 to the time they enter kindergarten.

Q: Does any book count?

A: Yes! Any complete book read to your child counts. In addition, it doesn't matter WHO does the reading to your child. It all counts! If a brother, sister, grandma, grandpa, babysitter, or even daycare provider reads to your child, it counts. If you read the same book multiple times, that counts—repetition is a wonderful form of learning! Main thing: it all counts!

Q: What do I do when I finish my log?

A: Bring your log back to the youth services desk at the Winona Public Library. You'll receive a new log every time you complete 100 books.

Q: We've read all the books we like. What do I do?

A: Ask a librarian! We love recommending new books. In addition, the book suggestions in your starter info folder should give you a great start!